It's April 1!

SCOOP
"Don't get fooled, Eagles!"

The Eastern Echo

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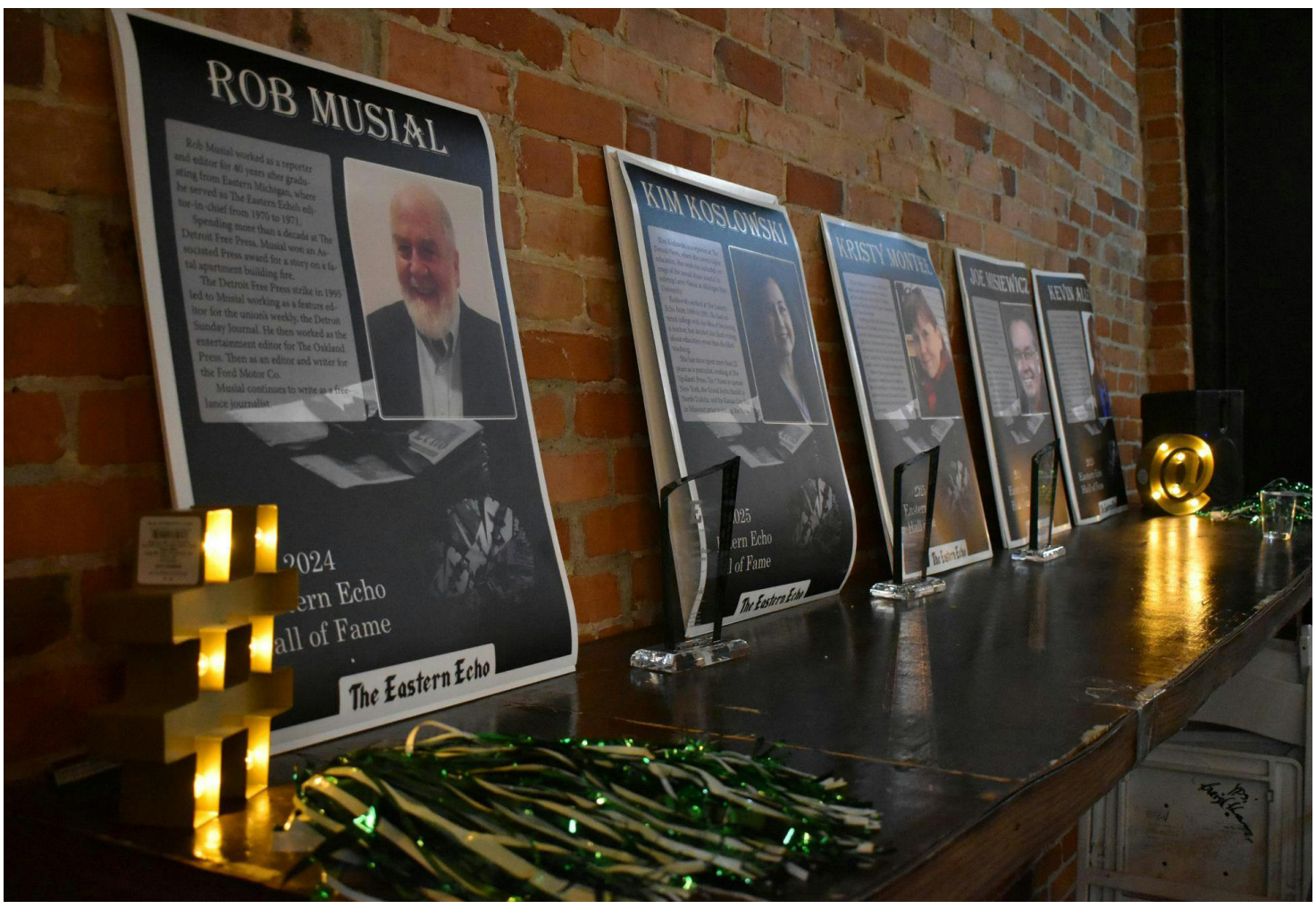
The Echo, Cellar Roots celebrate success at Student Media Gala

Asia O'Quinn
Staff Reporter



Posters profile each *Echo* Hall of Fame inductee, starting from 2023. *Max Taylor/The Eastern Echo*

Introducing one of the 2025 Eastern Echo Hall of Fame members at a Thursday awards dinner, 2024 inductee Rob Musial repeated something he said former Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel editor Kristy Montee had shared.

"Life is great, and I owe much of it to The Echo," Montee had told Musial.

Moments later, speaking to the banquet crowd via Zoom, Montee repeated the sentiment: "The Echo took me in and gave me a sense of belonging. It gave me a sense of direction."

Montee was one of three Eastern Echo alumni honored Thursday, March 27, at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse as the Eastern Michigan University student media team celebrated their work and honored former Echo team members who have had distinguished careers in the field of journalism.

In addition to Montee, Detroit News reporter Kim Kozlowski and broadcaster Joe Misiewicz were inducted as 2025 members of The Eastern Echo Hall of Fame at the gala. Catered by Haifa Falafel, the gala included comments from each of the new inductees, the announcement of awards for student journalists, and a silent auction to raise scholarship funding for student journalists.

Among the student awards, Digital Editor Julez DeShetler was named the 2025 Echo Videographer of the Year. Frank Remski, who writes film and theater reviews for The Echo, received the 2025 Columnist of the Year honor.

"He does such an exceptional job of writing reviews. He's really set the standard," Christine Uthoff, student media advisor for the Echo, said of Remski's work.

Echo Design Chief Rylee Curley received the 2025 Artist of the Year honor. Rylee is the creator of The Echo's mascot, Scoop, who helps to share the weather news on the printed pages of The Easter Echo, and online through features such as Scoop on the Scene. Editors said Scoop, an eagle often depicted wearing a news hat and holding a newspaper, is the cousin of EMU's mascot Swoop.

Among the other staff awards, Photo Editor Max Taylor received the Photographer of the Year honors. Olivia Hendry, the team's managing editor, was honored with the Reporter of the Year award after joining the Echo staff last semester in the fall.

"You never know what a difference one person can make in a newsroom, and Olivia does that," Uthoff said of Hendry. "She brought a sense of energy, idealism, and attitude to our staff that has helped us accomplish our goals, including putting all of this together. ... She also wrote a lot of stories."

Ameera Salman, editor-in-chief, was given the Echo Leader of the Year award. Uthoff said she remembered when Salman first walked into her office two years ago describing goals and all the things she could do as a member of the student media team. Uthoff said Salman succeeded in reaching those goals, and more.

Madison Cantrell, the editor in chief of the Eastern arts and literary magazine Cellar Roots, received the Magazine Editor of the Year award. Cantrell also announced that the 51st edition of the magazine is now available for purchase on Amazon, and the team is hosting a launch party from 6-9 p.m. April 3 in the Student Center Intermedia Gallery. Works included in the magazine will be on display in the gallery during the party, and throughout the month of April.

Kevin Allen, the 2023 inductee to The Eastern Echo Hall of Fame and the committee's chairman, kicked off the Hall of Fame induction activities. He described the history of the Hall of Fame, now in its third year, and told the crowd that the list of potential members is already long and distinguished, and he wants to make sure to get everybody honored.

2025 inductee Kim Kozlowski was introduced by her husband, Jeff Bennett. Kozlowski works for the Detroit News. Bennett is a former reporter for the Detroit Free Press. Allen said that their relationship was the ultimate romantic story that they worked for opposing Detroit newspapers.

"I've never met somebody so committed to journalism and committed to going the extra step to doing whatever it takes to write a big story," Bennett said while introducing Kozlowski. "It was good that she never really picked up school teaching and that she found a home here at The Echo."

Kozlowski said she was grateful to be present at the gala especially because just hours before arriving at the Freighthouse, she was writing a breaking news story about the University of Michigan's decision to abolish its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program.

Entering her senior year in high school, Kozlowski said, she wasn't thinking about college. Then, a woman who was seeing her father's grandparents asked her where she was going, as if it were the next natural step. Kozlowski said she reflected on that question, and soon found herself on EMU's campus, a first-generation college student studying to become a teacher.

She then joined The Echo staff and quickly realized that she enjoyed writing more than teaching.

Kozlowski worked for The Echo from 1989-1991. Her professional experience includes more than 25 years at various newspapers including The Ypsilanti Press, The Citizen in Upstate New York, the Grand Forks Herald in North Dakota, and the Kansas City Star in Missouri, before joining The Detroit News.

Ameera Salaman introduced the next inductee, Joe Misiewicz, an Echo alum and retired professor and broadcast journalist who is known by many journalists as Dr. Joe. The Echo honor marked Misiewicz's third Hall of Fame award. He is a member of halls of fame at Central Michigan University and Ball State University in Indiana. Misiewicz taught at Central and Ball State in addition to his time as a professor at Eastern Michigan.

Misiewicz stepped to the lectern Thursday and immediately donned his Eastern Echo hat. He then showed the audience a 1967 copy of the newspaper. Misiewicz said he was appreciative of his buddy, Dennis Beagen, who nominated him for the award; his wife, Kerri; and of Echo Editor-in-Chief Ameera Salaman, who wrote the article about his selection. Misiewicz said Salman turned the interview into a conversation, which is the way it should be done.

Musial, as he introduced Montee, listed several key positions she held in professional journalism before re-inventing herself as a New York Times best-selling author along with her sister Kelly Nichols. Musial also said that Montee knew from a young age what she wanted to do; evidence by the creation of a neighborhood paper for her suburban block in Detroit when she was in the fourth grade.

Speaking over a video-call from her home in Florida, Montee told the crowd that she cherished her time at Eastern, and particularly at The Echo. She also said she had to thank Echo staff writer Annabelle .

"She wrote a really great story about me in the Echo," Montee said of Favre.

"She told me I had to wear something spiffy tonight," Montee said, sparking laughter from the crowd. "I don't own any nice clothes because I'm retired and only wear yoga pants."

Montee received more applause as she lifted her EMU flag to the camera. She also told the crowd that she loved how The Eastern Echo still uses the old-style nameplate, because it makes her feel connected to her past.

Although she wrote that neighborhood newspaper while in grade school, Montee stepped onto Eastern's campus to study teaching. She took on The Echo job to earn a little money, at first. She graduated with an education degree, but it was writing - and her Echo experiences - that launched her career.

God put me on Earth to accomplish a certain number of things.
Right now I'm so far behind I will never die.
Cellar Roots
EST. 1971
@ cellar.roots

Cellar Roots Editor-in-Chief Madison Cantrell and Head Designer Laurence Bourdeau promoting and selling copies of the magazine's 51st volume, launched this year. *Max Taylor/The Eastern Echo*

The Eastern Echo

The Eastern Echo serves the Eastern Michigan University and Ypsilanti-area communities as an independent student-operated newspaper. Founded in 1881 as The Normal News, The Echo distributes weekly printed editions on campus and throughout the surrounding community during the fall and winter academic semesters; and publishes year-round on the web. Contents are subject to copyright and may not be reproduced without prior written consent of the newspaper.

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THE ECHO MISSION

The Eastern Echo informs the Eastern Michigan University and Ypsilanti community by highlighting newsworthy content in a fair, accurate and timely manner.

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Winter 2025
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PICK UP A COPY

Print editions published Tuesdays from late August to early May are available in racks or on tables in all academic buildings on the EMU campus, and at dozens of businesses in the community.

Among those businesses are:

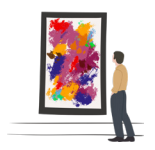
- Sweetwaters on Cross St
- The Golden Egg
- Domino's
- and more!

Want to have copies of The Eastern Echo delivered to your Ypsilanti business? Email advertising@easternecho.com!

CORRECTIONS

The Eastern Echo corrects mistakes. If we got it wrong, we want to make it right. Please bring any errors to the attention of the Editor-in-Chief by emailing editor@easternecho.com.

Weekly Calendar

TUESDAY APRIL 1	WEDNESDAY APRIL 2	THURSDAY APRIL 3	FRIDAY APRIL 4	SATURDAY APRIL 5	SUNDAY APRIL 6	MONDAY APRIL 7
CAN THERE BE HUMAN RIGHTS IN PRISON? PRAY HARROLD ROOM 219 3:30 P.M. - 5 P.M.	RIVERSIDE'S YPSI FINE ART CLUB 76 N HURON ST. 5:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.	SALSA DANCE NIGHT YPSILANTI FREIGHTHOUSE 6:30 P.M.	FOOLMOON: RHYTHM & FOOLS! WASHINGTON ST. 7:30 P.M.	2ND ANNUAL CLONLARA ART MARKET CLONLARA SCHOOL 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.		TRUEMU NIGHT: DETROIT TIGERS COMERICA PARK 6:40 P.M.
CHEESE AND CHILI HONORS COLLEGE RECEPTION HALL 5:30 P.M. - 7 P.M.	"COSMIC COLORS" AT THE EMU PLANETARIUM MARK JEFFERSON ROOM 402 7:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.	CELLAR ROOTS GALLERY RECEPTION STUDENT CENTER GALLERY 6 P.M. 				

Scoop's Forecast

45°		29°	**Tuesday, April 1**
42°		26°	**Wednesday, April 2**
53°		30°	**Thursday, April 3**
46°		33°	**Friday, April 4**
50°		35°	**Saturday, April 5**
65°		42°	**Sunday, April 6**
56°		29°	**Monday, April 7**

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

StimuLatte Cafe wants to give Ypsilanti a communal space

Gabriella Payeur
News Reporter

"We noticed that the community wanted a cafe and no one was taking the initiative, so we did." said Khalid Awwad about his new family-owned StimuLatte Cafe.

3.2 miles from the Student Center, about a nine minute drive or 35 minute bus ride, is the new cafe. Located at 1816 Whittaker Road, they opened on Feb 22, 2025.

StimuLatte Cafe came from Khalid's father, Ziad Awwad. There was no specific reasoning name for the shop's name, just that they wanted one that was exciting and uplifting. Khalid said that the dopamine molecule in their logo was his inner science nerd coming out on the stimulation part of the name.

Opening a cafe was the dream of Ziad Awwad, and Khalid helped make his dream come true when they started planning StimuLatte. In three months, they turned this dream into a reality.

Kahlid Awwad said that he has lived in Ypsilanti his whole life and initially wanted to take the coffee shop out of state. Until he heard the community's desire for a cafe-style coffee shop and decided home was the perfect place.

He said that the backing of a community is what they were looking for when trying to find a location. So far, he has found that community backing in Ypsilanti. He said he has received positive feedback in person and through the Nextdoor app.

To help build and engage the community, they are open all days of the week. Monday through Saturday, they are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Sundays, they are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Khalid Awwad said, "We really want this to be a social spot."

While they currently are not hosting events themselves, Kahlid Awwad said that they are happy to let anyone use their space for whatever they want. He said people can contact them at info@stimulatteyourday.com or on Instagram at @stimulattecafe to plan a time to reserve the space. They also welcome walk-ins to use the space.

Khalid Awwad said, "Anyone who wants to do a group study night is welcome to come in and work together in this space. You can move the tables, be as loud as you want, make the space your own."

They are even open to taking song and genre requests during day-to-day operations. Khalid Awwad said they usually play piano or pop music, but will play anything upon request.

For students and teachers, they offer 5% off on all items when ID is shown at the counter. For first responders, healthcare professionals, and military personnel/veterans, they offer 10% off all items.

Currently, they offer online ordering as well as their in-store ordering. They take a more community-based approach as opposed to the quicker, more streamlined approach of many chain restaurants and coffee shops. They like to take the time to talk to their customers and make their drinks and food from scratch.

Sandwiches are their speciality, with a variety of cheese, meat, vegetable, and bread options. All their syrups are imported from Europe and made with cane sugar.

Gabriella Payeur/The Eastern Echo

Prices range from $1 to $10. Baked goods, on-the-go snacks and non-coffee beverages are also available. For their full menu, check out their website stimulatteyourday.com.

Looking to the future, StimuLatte Cafe has lots of aspirations. They are looking to add Doordash and Uber Eats to their ordering options.

For the spring and summer, they are adding patio seating and expanding their menu. The shop wants to add refreshers, but they're are trying to find their own recipe that does not copy a chain but is uniquely their own.

While they get settled, they are sticking to mostly family for staffing. However, they are soon going to start expanding their staff.

Khalid Awwad said once they are confident and settled, they will look to open a second location closeby. He said they are eyeing Ann Arbor, but are open to a different small town.

For now, StimuLatte Cafe looks to bring people together in their shop by fostering a fun, welcoming environment.

Lifelong memories, mentors highlight EMU 45th Undergraduate Symposium

Max Smith
News Reporter

Courtesy of Amy Bearinger

Eastern Michigan University hosted its 45th annual Undergraduate Symposium inside the campus' student center this Friday, Mar. 28.

The event, which when first started in 1980 was the first of its kind in the country, allows undergraduate students from the university the opportunity to pursue further knowledge of their studies and present research and projects much like how PhD or graduate students might present their theses at the end of their program.

Hosted by the College of Arts and Science, the Symposium allows students in all five of the university's colleges to present.

Throughout the day, students gave oral and poster presentations to visitors, ranging on topics anywhere from research on the relationship between the production of one of the peptides responsible for Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative disorders against an enzyme found in non-small cell lung cancer cells to a scalable cybersecurity program utilizing AI developed by a student.

The symposium also displayed many students in the School of Art and Design's capstone projects as part of the Crossing Lines Design Expo and Gallery in room 300 of the student center. All of the presentations and projects at the event represented the culmination of students' and their faculty mentors' work throughout the year.

Eastern Michigan University President James Smith stated in his luncheon address, "I run into people when we're doing visits around the country and around the world, and I ask, 'What was your most memorable moment [at Eastern]? It often will be 'my symposium presentation' or 'the friendship I developed as a result of the work that I did for the symposium."

Presenting for the first time was Eastern Michigan's College in Prison Program which is partnered with the Women's Huron Correctional Facility.

President Smith was in attendance for program intern Jenelle Yarmoluk's presentation, which gave a multi-level examination of the effects of the program. The program, which has offered credited courses to women in the correctional facility since 2023, had its first student presentations played through videos recorded by the students for family and other visitors in the audience.

This year's symposium keynote speaker was Eastern Michigan alumnus Nino Monea, who is currently a visiting law professor for Stetson University in Florida, and former clerk with Justice Bridget Cormack on the Michigan Supreme Court.

Monea was the student Emcee for the 36th Undergraduate Symposium and presented projects at the symposium several times while he served as Student Body Vice President in his time at EMU before graduating and moving on to Harvard Law School.

"I think back to the best professors I had at Eastern," Monea said. "Professors like Dr. Bernstein, James de Norris and Barry Pyle. They are the standard I strive for now ... So let me issue a challenge to all the students here, the skills you get, not just from this event, but from this education, are incredible tools that, in the right hands, can do enormous good. So I ask you, whatever you do, make public service not just a line of work but a way of life."

Monea made himself available for students and faculty members after his address and could be seen throughout the event walking the halls and engaging with visitors and presenters.

What's the move? April 1-7

Amiya Pillow
Staff Reporter

Can There be Human Rights in Prison? - April 1

Join criminologists Rob Jones, a professor at Cardiff University in Wales, and Rita Shah, who teaches at Eastern, as they discuss their research on human rights and incarceration. The event is schedule for 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Pray Harrold room 219. This event is free for students, who can register if they are interested in joining the conversation online. Those attending in person aren't required to register.

Cheese and Chili - April 1

The Honors College scheduled a new event filled with activities, community building and a variety of soups and grilled cheese. Open to the campus and offering time to mingle with other students and faculty, the Cheese and Chili event is scheduled for 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Honors College reception hall, room 107. Anyone interested in attending should register using this sign-up link.

Riverside's Ypsi Fine Art Club - April 2

Every first and third Monday of the month, Riverside Arts Center in Ypsilanti hosts a presentation forum for artists, collectors and curators. From 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. a community of folks who enjoy a variety of art gather to socialize and listen to artists' presentations. The event is free and open to the public. Art presentations are volunteer only.

"Cosmic Colors" at the EMU Planetarium - April 2

The Planetarium will be full of colors in Room 402 from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Learn about the entire electromagnetic spectrum on EMU's campus. This show is open to the public. Tickets, $5 each, are available for purchase through Eastern's online box office.

Salsa Dance Night at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse - April 3

Want to learn how to salsa dance? Join dance instructor Mambo Marci at 6:30 p.m. at the Freighthouse while she teaches salsa dance to live music by LL7 Latin Jazz. This event is open to all, attend by yourself or with a partner. Comfortable shoes are recommended. Tickets are available for purchase using the link or by contacting the ticket office at 734-764-2538.

Cellar Roots Gallery Reception - April 3

Partnering with Intermedia Gallery Group, the production team for Eastern's annual arts and literary magazine, Cellar Roots, is hosting a launch party and opening night reception starting at 6 p.m. at the Student Center Gallery. Works included in the magazine and the exhibit were curated through jury selection and published by the student media team. The works will be on display in the Student Center Gallery until the end of April. The opening night reception includes an open mic from 7 to 9 p.m.

FoolMoon: Rhythm & Fools! - April 4

Join the Ann Arbor community at 7:30 p.m. for a night of dancing, live music and costume designing. The theme of this annual outdoor event is "Rhythm & Fools," and will include community-made illuminated sculptures that will be placed around the event. At 8 p.m. processionals will begin and the celebration will conclude at Washington & Ashley.

2nd Annual Clonlara Art Market - April 5

Join local students and adult artists as they display a wide range of goods at Clonlara School from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event is free and will have activities as well as local food trucks. Anyone interested in being a vendor, can reserve a booth. All booth fees will be donated to redesign the school's playground.

TRUEMU Night with the Detroit Tigers - April 7

The Detroit Tigers will play the New York Yankees at Comerica Park at 6:40 p.m. for TRUEMU Night! For all tickets purchased, a $5 donation will be made to the EMU Student Emergency Fund and will include a cobranded Tigers/EMU hat. Tickets can be purchased online and cost between $26 and $55.

Lego model of EMU being displayed at Ann Arbor's Brick Bash 2025. *Photo courtesy of Melanie Schuessler Bond.*

Eastern Michigan alum Emily Langbehn makes Lego model of campus

Lauren Holloway
News Reporter

At the annual Brick Bash this year, an Eastern alum displayed a Lego model of Eastern's campus. Emily Langbehn, who graduated in 2007, built the model without instructions with pieces she sourced from other sets. The model includes Best Hall, Halle Library, the Student Center, and Pray-Harrold.

Langbehn has been a Lego builder since childhood, playing with the sets handed down from her brother. At 10 years old she got a new set of her very own complete with her first girl mini figure, a character she still has in her collection. Two years ago, Langbehn started building models of her own creation, (mocs, as their known in the Lego building community). She broke down existing sets and organized the bricks by color and shape, creating her own workshop in her basement.

"I've loved Lego all my life." Langbehn said.

At first, Langbehn started building small scenes from movies she liked, such as Saw, The Ring, and The Exorcist, that she liked but that Lego had no official sets for. Then Langbehn started branching out, making whole buildings. She's made models of EMU's campus, Depot Town, and the water tower. Her system of choosing what to build is "Just stuff I like," she said.

In order to create these complex displays, sometimes she needs more pieces. For instance, the model of the water tower needed over 2,000 pieces. To get those bricks, Langbehn ordered custom pieces from Brick Link, a global marketplace for Lego builders to buy and sell materials.

After Langbehn's first Brick Bash, her Lego building hobby took off. She found a community of people that she really enjoyed being around and talking with. Creating with bricks is a great outlet for everyone of all ages, not just kids. It's a renewable art form; every mistake can be fixed, and there have been mistakes. Langbehn learns as she goes, and when things break and fall apart, she builds them back up better than before.

Langbehn's process involves engineering specifications, some calculations for scale, and miniature sample models. She spends hours in her basement workshop, with The Office playing in the background, using reference photos she's taken to make her creations. It can take months to finish one project, and when she gets stuck on one, she jumps to work on something else. With no instructions, Langbehn's technique is just trial and error, tinkering around to see what works. Her advice to new builders is to just start, and learn as you go.

Langbehn views Lego building as her escape. She wouldn't consider herself an artist in any other regard, but in Lego, her creativity blossoms.

"I find myself looking at buildings and thinking about how I could make them in Lego." Langbehn said.

Building EMU's campus was a project near and dear to Langbehn's heart. Eastern was the first place she felt like home; she loved her time in college. So, she decided to combine her love of Eastern with her love of Lego. The display is complete with building signs in the exact font that she made herself and a mini version of The Eastern Echo. Langbehn also added personal details like mini figures of herself and her old roommate.

For Langbehn, Lego building is not just an individual task. She frequently employs the help of her husband for fresh eyes and a new perspective. Langbehn's niece Alyosha also played a pivotal role in the EMU project, coming up with new creative ideas.

"Everybody thinks differently." Langbehn said.

Lego is not just a hobby for Langbehn, it's a part of her life. It's an escape, a way to destress and a creative outlet. Her love of Lego is expressed through her Lego shark keychain and her Lego shark tattoo.

Langbehn's next project will be to make a Lego model of the Literati bookstore in Ann Arbor. Her model of EMU will continue its rounds, being displayed at the recent Student Media Gala on March 27, then to Brickworld in Chicago in June.

Cellar Roots jury selects photographer Andrew Nosay's images for 51st edition

Carol Detary
Staff Reporter

EDITOR'S NOTE: Cellar Roots, published annually by the Student Media Team at EMU, in late March, released the 51st edition of its arts and literature magazine in late March 2025. This article, one in a series, focuses on one of the artists whose work was selected for publication.

Photography was, originally, a blowoff class Andrew Nosay took as a senior in high school. Instead of dismissing the work, he fell in love with the art of photography.

In just one semester, the trajectory of Nosay's educational and artistic life changed. Nosay received his associate's degree in Photography from Washtenaw Community College in December 2019 and now is a senior studying Visual Arts Education at Eastern Michigan University.

In his photography course at Salem High School, students learned composition techniques, how to use Photoshop, and how to develop black and white film made from a homemade pinhole camera in the dark room. After graduation, Nosay and his photography teacher stayed in touch. In August 2021, that teacher contacted Nosay and asked him to serve as a long-term substitute for her beginning photography classes while she was away on maternity leave.

Nosay agreed and began his journey as an educator.

Adapting and thriving in a new environment, Nosay took on the challenge of teaching without prior experience. After COVID-19, the beginning photography classes had paused the film unit, and there was no developing or shooting. He, however, wanted to bring back what created his love for film, in the place where he found his passion.

"Hey, let's do film. Let go off of these plans and like bring film back and do like the whole big film unit again. We did it and all my students loved film," Nosay said.

Nosay said he is inspired by films, specifically directors and cinematographers. Wong Kar Wai (director) and Christopher Doyle (director of photography/ cinematographer) are a duo that have created "Chungking Express," and "Fallen Angels," and are known for films that incorporate high contrast, vivid, colorful and dreamy themes. These concepts can be seen in Nosay's work, "General Portraiture and Aloneness/Loneliness."

Orson Welle' high-contrast black and white films, including "Touch of Evil," and "Citizen Kane," are reminiscent of Nosay's work titled, "These Are Not Portraits, Large Format II," and the "West Virginia Penitentiary."

"If I get to go on a trip, a place I've never been, everything is photogenic. It's all new," Nosay said.

The series "West Virginia Penitentiary" was inspired by a trip that Nosay said he and his mother took in the summer of 2024. After researching the history about the penitentiary, Nosay said, he was inspired to shoot the guided tour. Nosay used his Sureshot Telemax point-and-shoot camera, and Ilford XP2 Super 35mm black and white film to capture an untitled 17-photo series.

Four of the still shots from that series are included in the 51st volume of Cellar Roots, the arts and literature magazine published annually by the Student Media Team at Eastern. The 51st volume was released to the public in late March 2025.

"I think with these, it was a bit more intentional," Nosay said of the penitentiary images. "I feel like untitled photos kind of let them speak for themselves a little bit, especially when you see them together."

Nosay said when shooting the West Virginia Penitentiary, he used a point-and-shoot camera loaded with black and white film. Point-and-shoot cameras have limited settings for adjusting the way images will turn out. For many, including Nosay, the simplicity allows for focus to remain on the subject and composition.

"I realized how dilapidated this place is, and I feel like you can just kind of feel the weight of all of the bad things that happened in this place," Nosay said. "So, I decided to shoot with a point-shoot camera, and I shot black and white film. With black and white, it feels timeless. Since the prison did close in the 90s everything was kept in place, including the stuff that was like falling apart."

Andrew Nosay and other work can be found at Andrewnosay.com or on Instagram @Moofish.

Cellar Roots Volume 51 is available for purchase on Amazon or directly from the student media team by emailing cellartoots@easternecho.com.

New Ypsilanti food pantry, community center comes to town

Quanzelle Wyatt
Business Manager

The Peace Neighborhood Center's new HUB Community Center and food pantry has opened on 1515 S. Harris Rd.

The center is open two days a week on Mondays and Thursdays. On Mondays, it is open from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and Thursdays from 3-6 p.m.

The center has more programming such as a community dinners that's hosted every Tuesday from 5-6:30 p.m., and a senior cafe which is hosted on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The nonprofit organization, based in Ann Arbor, has been around since 1971 and provides services in advocacy, emergency assistance, after-school programs, summer day camps, and much more throughout Washtenaw county.

They operate a food pantry in collaboration with Food Gatherers.

"We decided we needed to put it here, because this area is a food desert," said Bonnie Bullips Jr., executive director of the Peace Neighborhood Center. "From where we sit at 1515 S. Harris, the nearest grocery store is about two miles away and the nearest chain grocery store is over three miles away."

Bonnie explains that the area where they are is a food desert because a majority of residents spend about 50% of their annual income on housing and transportation.

"The U.S. government says you should spend no more than 30% on housing," Bullips said.

Bullips wants the pantry to be a go-between for people that couldn't afford to get food for the week, and need more food to at least sustain themselves for a short time. The pantry is one of the many solutions to help Ypsilanti and the people in the area.

Bullips said that a wide variety of people from the community use the pantry.

"In our pantry, we've seen families, senior citizens, homeowners who don't have money to provide, or need this extra bridge of food," Bullips said. "The diversity of people we've seen from ages to family sizes has been just wonderful. There hasn't been one specific type."

Currently, Peace Neighbordhood Center receives food from Food Gathers and does not have a system to receive food donations from the public.

Bullips said that donating food to Food Gatherers is the best option, since they have the infrastructure to sort through what they can send over or not.

EMU baseball stuns Michigan in 9-8 thriller, snaps loss streak in Ann Arbor

Elena Davis
Sports Editor

In a back-and-forth battle under the lights of Ray Fisher Stadium, Eastern Michigan University's baseball team pulled off a stunning 9-8 upset over the University of Michigan on Tuesday, March 25, snapping an eight-game losing streak in Ann Arbor and earning its first road win over a Power Four opponent since 2018.

The victory marks Eastern's first triumph in Ann Arbor since April 15, 2015.

Eastern Michigan wasted no time setting the tone. In the top of the first inning, Devan Zirwas delivered a two-run triple that brought home Ben Schechterman and Logan Hugo. Bruce Jellison followed with a groundout RBI to plate Zirwas, giving the Eagles an early 3-0 advantage.

The Wolverines answered immediately, tying the game with three runs in the bottom of the first. But the Eagles continued to swing freely, regaining the lead in the second with a solo home run by Harrison Travis.

The fourth inning saw a burst of offense from EMU, with Jordan Krill scoring on a wild pitch and Chase Vance crossing the plate on a double play, extending the lead to 6-3. The Eagles showcased a diverse offensive attack, tallying a double, triple, and home run in the same game for the first time this season.

The Wolverines rallied with a four-run sixth inning to take a 7-6 lead, but EMU responded in the seventh. Pinch-hitter Brendan Kleiman tied the game at 7-7 with a clutch RBI single.

Michigan reclaimed the lead in the bottom of the seventh on a sacrifice fly, setting the stage for a dramatic ninth-inning comeback by the Green and White.

Gianno Zuccaro stepped up with a go-ahead RBI double to give EMU an 8-7 lead. A passed ball later allowed another run to score, pushing the advantage to 9-7. Though Michigan plated two runs in the bottom of the ninth, the Eagles held firm, with right-hander Ethan Davis slamming the door shut to seal the win.

On the mound, Eastern's bullpen delivered. Despite giving up nine hits and six earned runs over 8.1 innings, the staff struck out 11 ... the second-highest total in a game this season. Colin Milligan and Davis each threw 1.1 hitless innings of relief, with Davis earning the win and recording two strikeouts.

"You're not always going to have success, but if you focus on the right things and stay consistent, good things are going to happen," said EMU head coach Robbie Britt. "It was great to see Gianno step up today. It's been a rough year for him, but he stayed concentrated, had good hits and made a big impact for us. That's the type of player that he is."

Britt emphasized that the win was a true team effort.

"It was a total team effort today. You saw different guys step up, from the bullpen to the bench guys who came in and made some contributions. This win was a team effort, and that's what makes it so special."

Davis, who has anchored EMU's bullpen throughout the season, credited his teammates for their defensive support.

"Getting the first-pitch strike is important," Davis said. "The defense bailed me out today, and that was the difference."

Zuccaro, whose key ninth-inning double proved decisive, spoke to the team's collective mindset.

"It's just the next man up," he said. "We all have each other's backs, and when we play as a team, we're tough to beat."

As the Eagles turn their attention back to conference play, the road victory is a much-needed confidence boost ahead of a three-game weekend series at Ohio University.

"We will enjoy this one for a little bit, but the biggest thing is to keep practicing and stay focused on what's in front of us," Britt said.

Wilson shines, leads EMU women's lacrosse past Youngstown State in historic 19-6 win

Welcome to MAC play, Kathryn Wilson.

The freshman from Georgia brought the heat on a chilly day at Scicluna Field, scoring a career-high six goals and headlining Eastern Michigan women's lacrosse's record-tying scoring output against Youngstown State, 19-6.

Wilson tallied the third most goals from any player in program history and the second most from any player during conference play. The Eagles, as a whole, tied their high water mark of goals scored ever in a game with the 19 they put up against Presbyterian just under a month ago.

While Eastern Michigan's offensive explosion nearly rewrote the record books, their defensive showing was arguably even more impressive.

After giving up five goals in the first half, the Eagles only allowed one in the final 30 minutes of play, tied for the lowest mark in program history. The six goals that the home team gave up over the course of the full game were the fewest in a MAC game that Eastern Michigan has ever allowed.

Leading the defensive charge was sophomore goalie Maddie Porter from Montrose, New York, who recorded eight saves and only gave up one goal in a half for the second time in seven days.

Also stuffing the stat sheet on this historic afternoon was Tracy Grollman from Annapolis, Maryland, registering a hat trick of her own, plus Mackenzie Blackwell, hailing from North Beach, Maryland, adding two goals and one assist. Along with her six goals, Wilson registered two assists to bring her total point tally at the end of four quarters up to eight.

Nine different Eagles found the back of the net at some point during the game, the most the green and white have ever registered during a conference game.

With their first conference win of the season now on the board, Eastern Michigan improves to 5-4 on the campaign (1-1 MAC), while Youngstown State falls to 5-5 (0-2 MAC).

Next, the Eagles will return to action with a road test against Central Michigan in Mount Pleasant on March 30 at noon. Viewers can stream the game live on CMUChippewas.com.

Jayla Ford/The Eastern Echo

Eagle Sports Tips & Tales: April 1-7

Elena Davis
Sports Editor

The excitement is building as Eastern Michigan athletics charges into early April with a thrilling slate of events! From fierce baseball matchups to intense lacrosse games, track & field competitions, and golf tournaments, EMU athletes are gearing up for another action-packed week. Whether you're in the stands cheering on your Eagles in Ypsilanti or following the action from afar, here's your breakdown of the must-watch events across multiple sports this week:

Baseball vs Michigan

On April 1 at 3 p.m., the baseball team will take on Michigan at home in Ypsilanti. This non-conference matchup is an excellent opportunity for the Eagles to prove themselves against one of the region's top teams.

Lacrosse at Michigan

The lacrosse team will face Michigan in Ann Arbor on April 2 at 5 p.m. The Eagles will look to continue their strong season as they take on a formidable opponent in this exciting road game.

Baseball at Notre Dame

Also on April 2, the baseball team heads to South Bend, Indiana, for a 5 p.m. game against Notre Dame. The Eagles are set for a competitive non-conference showdown as they aim to keep their momentum going.

Men's & Women's Track & Field at Spartan Invitational

On April 4, the men's and women's track and field teams will compete at the Spartan Invitational in East Lansing, Michigan. This all-day event will see top athletes from around the region battling it in various events.

Tennis at Toledo

On April 4 at 1 p.m., the tennis team will travel to Toledo, Ohio, for a conference matchup against Toledo. The Eagles will be looking to pick up an important win on the road and continue their strong play in the MAC.

Baseball vs Ball State

On April 4 at 3 p.m., the baseball team returns home to face Ball State in Ypsilanti. The Eagles are eager to defend their home field and win a crucial MAC victory.

Men's & Women's Track & Field at Golden Grizzlies Invitational

On April 5, the men's and women's track and field teams will compete at the Golden Grizzlies Invitational in Rochester, Michigan. This is another all-day event that will see EMU athletes showcase their talents as they take on some of the best in the region.

Women's Rowing vs Michigan State

On April 5 at 10 a.m., the women's rowing team will compete against Michigan State in Ypsilanti. The Eagles are ready to bring their best on the water in this exciting home race.

Baseball vs Ball State

The baseball team faces Ball State again at home on April 5 at 2 p.m. This second game of the series is crucial as the Eagles look to take control and claim the series win.

Women's Golf at Boilermaker Classic

From April 6-7, the women's golf team heads to West Lafayette, Indiana, for the Boilermaker Classic. This all-day tournament will feature top golf programs, and the Eagles are ready to compete at a high level.

With so much action this week, support your Eastern Michigan Eagles across multiple sports! Stay connected with The Eastern Echo for the latest scores, highlights, and updates on EMU athletics. Don't miss a moment of the excitement!

'The Leopard' is full of war, love, and politics

Mariam Fakhreddine
Review Columnist

Review

"The Leopard" is a limited-episode series recently released on Netflix. Based on the Italian novel Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa, it has an English translation and is for mature audiences only. The series features Saul Nanni, an actor from the film "Love and Gelato," as Tancredi and Benedetta Porcaroli as Concetta.

This series follows a 19th-century Sicilian family that is involved in sociopolitical times. The Prince of Sicily, Don Fabrizio (Kim Rossi Stuart), is an arrogant man with political obligations who has to choose between his son Paolo (Alberto Rossi) and his nephew Tancredi. The love between Concetta and Tancredi is forbidden, becoming a family spectacle. Tancredi decides to marry another woman named Angelica (Deva Cassel). This leaves Concetta heartbroken, and she returns to her convent after her father and Tancredi betray her.

Highs

In "The Leopard," the 19th-century expectation was as imagined; the dresses and Sicily's scenery were beautiful. Sicily's old architecture was gorgeous, bringing the old-fashioned aspect of the film together. The time during when princes and princesses were known, it had the theme down perfectly.

The character growth of Concetta was robust. She was this heartbroken and shy girl that slowly turned into a comanderable woman. She was in love with Tandcredi, but became another person when he broke her heart. She learned from her mistakes and used them as a lesson. Her passion for Tandcredi would never leave, but that doesn't mean she cannot continue with her life.

The relationship between Don Fabrizio and Concetta is a highlight, considering how pure their father-daughter bond is. It was beautiful and well done between both characters. Fabrizio would do anything for his daughter; she was his favorite. She was precious to him, and it showed the pure love he had for his daughter.

The depth of the characters was high because this series examines themes of power, morality, and societal change. It adapted how Italy became one country, with Italian unification and a series of military and political events occurring during this period. The war was shown as a background significance that drove the country's change.

Lows

The main low was the pacing, which could sometimes be slow. This can disengage the audience because the historical context is heavy. The other critical aspect that could make the audience uninterested is the romantic interest of Concetta and Tancredi. They are cousins, so this could be odd for the audience, considering it is not normalized. This was more normalized during the 19th century, but not in modern times.

Verdict

"The Leopard" is worth watching, considering how well-developed the 19th-century theme is and the character development. It is full of political change that can result from actual events in Italy.

Rating: 8 out of 10

Mariam Fakhreddine is a film and theater reviewer for The Eastern Echo. She has worked as a news and features reporter for The Echo for two years.

'Severance' season 2 brings an already mind-bending show to masterful new heights

Frank Remski
Review Columnist

Review

What if you achieved work-life balance by splitting yourself into two people, one who only existed at work and one who was yourself? This was the premise of the Apple TV+ sci-fi thriller series, "Severance," which wrapped up its second season on March 20, 2025.

The series followed employees who had gotten the severance procedure, which split their memories between their work-selves, called "innies", and their normal selves, called "outies". They worked at the mysterious, shady company Lumon Industries. Season two picked up immediately after season one's explosive finale, and saw the severed employees battling against Lumon.

"Severance" starred Adam Scott and Britt Lower. It was created by Dan Erickson. Ben Stiller (yes, as in "Zoolander") was the executive producer and director of multiple episodes. The series is available to stream on Apple TV+. "Severance" has been renewed for a third season.

Highs

"Severance" was a rare series where nearly every single element and episode was perfectly crafted. As a sci-fi thriller, it was gripping and shocking in all the best ways. Its mysteries were puzzles the viewer was invited to solve and theorize about. It has a great amount of rewatchability, as one could go back, pick up missed clues and find the show completely different with added context.

In order to make this all work, "Severance" also required great character work. The show was laser focused on exploring characters, ensuring they were all either empathetically complex or intriguingly mysterious. The dynamic of "severing" someone was fascinating, leading to several actors pulling off two different characters with two different arcs and a strange connection. The entire cast was up to the task, behaving believably different every time they switched identities.

The world of "Severance" was visually compelling as well. Lumon's offices were harsh and cold with gaudy attempts at being welcoming. The cinematography outside of Lumon was often beautiful and serene, making use of winter landscapes and natural lighting. The camera work was impressive. For example, the opening of season two featured the protagonist frantically running down hallways, the camera always in front of him at breakneck speeds.

Although every episode was enjoyable, season two had some that were notably high quality. Episode four began out of the blue, the innies waking up in a wintery wilderness, throwing them and the viewer for a loop in an episode that changed their entire dynamic. Episode seven was among some of the greatest episodes ever aired on television, a heartrending introspection into an enigmatic character. The finale was even more explosive than season one's, over an hour long and jammed packed with brilliant twists.

Lows

In season one, the way normal people viewed Lumon was an important plot thread. This thread was mostly ignored by season two, which was odd given it was essential for the season one finale. However, since the show isn't finished, this thread could be picked up again in season three. Also, season two likely wouldn't have been improved by including this thread given its focus on characters and the inner workings of

Lumon.

Verdict

"Severance" is one of the best shows currently on streaming. Despite being about the mundane hell of office jobs, it was an intense emotional rollercoaster. A deeply rewarding series in how meticulously detailed and thoughtful it was, season two brought the show to new heights. Season three can't come soon enough!

Rating: 10 out of 10

Frank Remski is a film and theater reviewer for The Eastern Echo. He is majoring in media studies and journalism and minoring in public relations. He has worked for The Echo since summer of 2023 and has written both news stories and opinion pieces.

'Adolescence' series explores social media impact

Mariam Fakhreddine
Review Columnist

Review

"Adolescence," directed by Philip Barantini, is a limited series recently released on Netflix. This thrilling series features Owen Cooper as Jamie Miller, Ashley Walters as detective Luke Bascombe, and Stephen Graham as Eddie Miller. It is full of themes like toxic masculinity and the impact of social media.

This series is about the pressures of teens growing up and how the impact of social media is more powerful than imagined. Jamie Miller is accused of murdering Katie Leonard. Jamie shows a different side of himself and the reasons behind the murder. His family is shown in this series of how this murder affected them. Specifically, his father, Eddie Miller, struggles to understand how he committed such a heinous crime.

Highs

In "Adolescence," Graham's performance as Eddie was emotional and strong. He showed the intense heartbreak he went through when his son was arrested. He wanted to believe his son was good, but that was far from the truth. The amount of care and love he had for his son and family was

captured beautifully.

The portrayal of Jamie was impressive, considering he was a 13-year-old boy who committed a murder. He showed different emotions, from sad to downright aggressive, with the therapist. He had multiple personalities; he was evilly taunting his therapist. This provided an insight into the pain he felt inside, making others miserable.

Detective Bascombe was a determined cop who could see the toxiciness that happens in the high school. He wants to get to the bottom of the motive for the crime. The interrogations show how Jamie presented himself on social media. This led to the violent murder that took place.

The themes explored in this series are critical because of the social media aspect of bullying. It emphasizes how social media can affect a child's brain and its consequences. This is an in-depth emotional series about how adolescents need to be paid attention to.

The episode between Jamie and his therapist, Briony Ariston (Erin Doherty), was captivating. It was a powerful scene that showed Briony trying to help this boy by using techniques that would speak to him as a teenager. This showed all the thoughts that ran through Jamie's head and how he would completely switch his personality.

Lows

The primary low point was how short the series was. If there were more episodes, it would help to understand every aspect of why the murder happened.

A trial should have occurred, or Jamie should have received the sentencing. The last episode was missing aspects of Jamie's proceedings. Another low point was the reasoning behind the bullying of why Jamie was a target. This would have helped the audience understand why this led to a highly violent murder.

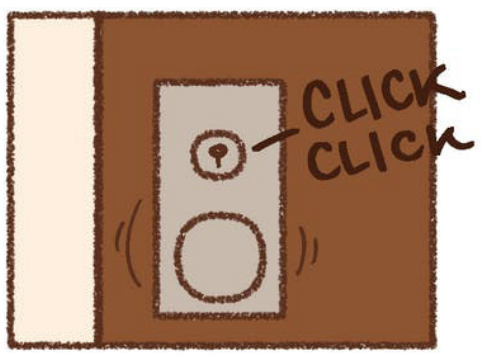
Verdict

"Adolescence" is worth watching, considering how it explores intense, more prominent themes in modern times. It is an emotional series and rated for a mature audience only.

Rating: 8.5 out of 10

Mariam Fakhreddine is a film and theater reviewer for The Eastern Echo. She has worked as a news and features reporter for The Echo for two years.

Moonlight 2-5
FunkyL0af
Comics Artist



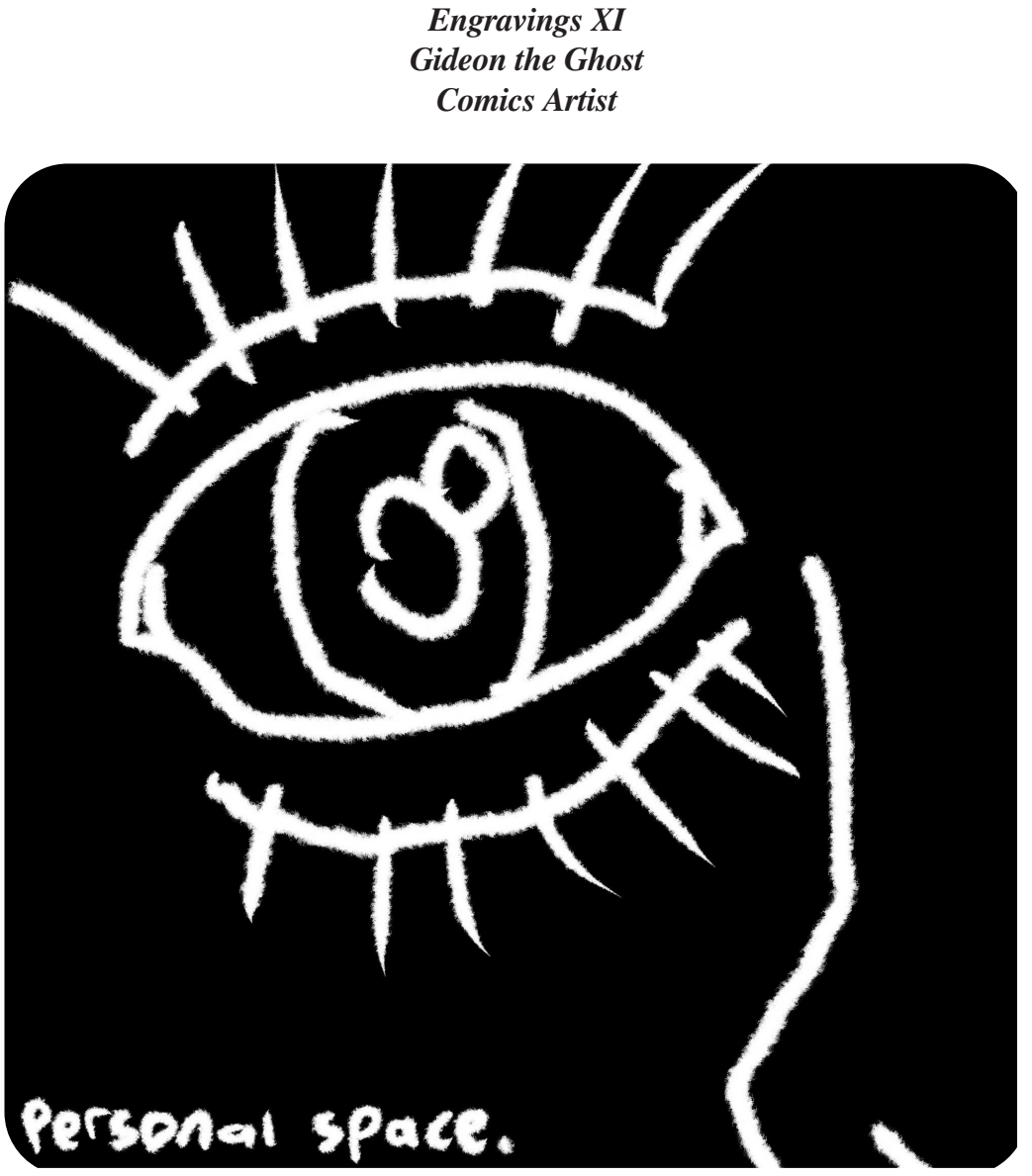
Scoop says...

More Comics Here! *The Echo Newsletter!*

Engravings IX
Gideon the Ghost
Comics Artist

Engravings X
Gideon the Ghost
Comics Artist

Engravings XI
Gideon the Ghost
Comics Artist



The Eastern Echo & Cellar Roots Student Media Gala

All of the editors for The Eastern Echo together at the 2025 Student Media Gala held Thursday, March 27 at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse. *Max Taylor / The Eastern Echo*
Back, from left to right: Newsletter Editor Gray Connor, Business Director Quanzelle Wyatt, Copy Editor Allie Beecher, Editor-in-Chief Ameera Salman, Sports Editor Elena Davis, Digital Editor Julez DeShetler; Front from left to right: Photo Editor Max Taylor, Design Chief Rylee Curley, Arts Editor Madison Cantrell, Managing Editor Olivia Hendry.
Not pictured: Podcast Editor Alex Kreps.

Editor-in-Chief Ameera Salman addressing the crowd at the 2025 Student Media Gala in the Ypsilanti Freighthouse on Thursday, March 27. *Owen Cardenas / The Eastern Echo*

Kevin Allen, the inaugural member of The Eastern Echo Hall of Fame, gathers with subsequent honorees during the 2025 Student Media Gala held March 27, 2025, at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse. The 2025 inductees are Joe Misiewicz, Kim Kozlowski, and Kristy Montee. *Max Taylor / The Eastern Echo*
From left to right: Kevin Allen, Joe Misiewicz, Kim Kozlowski, Rob Musial. Not pictured: Kristy Montee.

Attendees of the 2025 Student Media Gala attentively watching speakers before dinner in the Ypsilanti Freighthouse on Thursday, March 27. *Max Taylor / The Eastern Echo*

View the full gallery on our website!